



United States Department of the Interior

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Washington, DC 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:
7202.4-OS-2019-00956

June 11, 2019

Via email: 75100-52164056@requests.muckrock.com

Sai
MuckRock News
DEPT MR 75100
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

Dear Mr. Sai:

On June 10, 2019, you filed a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request seeking the following:

A. Agency HQ/PR emails with attribution designation phrases

I hereby request all emails:

1. from or to any email address, used in official capacity, of any person who, within 30 days of the time of the email, worked for:
 - i) agency headquarters,
 - ii) agency public relations,
 - iii) agency counsel's office, or
 - iv) any other component that regularly communicates with members of the press; and
2. containing any of the following phrases, regardless of capitalization or other minor variations:
 - i) "on the record",
 - ii) "off the record",
 - iii) "on background",
 - iv) "on deep background",
 - v) "not for attribution",
 - vi) "Chatham House rule",
 - vii) "lobby terms", or
 - viii) any synonymous phrases; and
3. that is in its original, native format (see below for details), as contained in either i) the agency's email / legal retention database(s) (such as Google Vault or similar service), or

ii) the agency's email server(s) / database(s), searched directly.

Your request was received in the Office of the Secretary FOIA office on June 10, 2019, and assigned control number **OS-2019-00956**. Please cite this number in any future communications with our office regarding your request.

Some of the records you have requested would likely be maintained from different bureaus within the Department of Interior. You may visit the DOI FOIA contact website (<https://www.doi.gov/foia/contacts>) and file your requests with any other bureau. This office will respond only on behalf of the Office of the Secretary (OS).

We have classified you as an “other-use” requester. As such, we may charge you for some of our search and duplication costs, but we will not charge you for our review costs; you are also entitled to up to 2 hours of search time and 100 pages of photocopies (or an equivalent volume) for free. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.39](#). If, after taking into consideration your fee category entitlements, our processing costs are less than \$50.00, we will not bill you because the cost of collection would be greater than the fee collected. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.37\(g\)](#).

You have asked for copies of agency records. According to our regulations, you may choose the format of disclosure for such records. Unless you specify otherwise, the Office of the Secretary will provide copies of responsive records electronically via email or CD-ROM as scanned PDF images when the responsive records exceed 50 pages.

Because we will need to search for and collect requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request, we are taking a 10-workday extension under [43 C.F.R. § 2.19](#). For the same reason, we are placing your request under the “Normal” processing track. See [43 C.F.R. § 2.15](#).

If you have any questions regarding the status of your request, or any of the issues discussed in this letter, you may contact Cindy Sweeney by phone at (202) 513-0765, by fax at (202) 219-2374, by e-mail at os_foia@ios.doi.gov or by mail at U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849 C St NW, MS-7328 MIB, Washington, DC 20240. You also may seek dispute resolution services from our FOIA Public Liaison, Clarice Julka.

Sincerely,

Clarice Julka
Office of the Secretary
FOIA Officer